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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,215	03/11/2004	Lawrence M. Janesky	257-011583-US(PAR)	6120
2512	7590	05/31/2007	EXAMINER	
PERMAN & GREEN			HORTON, YVONNE MICHELE	
425 POST ROAD			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			3635	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/31/2007		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/798,215	JANESKY, LAWRENCE M.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Yvonne M. Horton	3635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2007.

2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-6 and 12 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 7-11,13-15 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

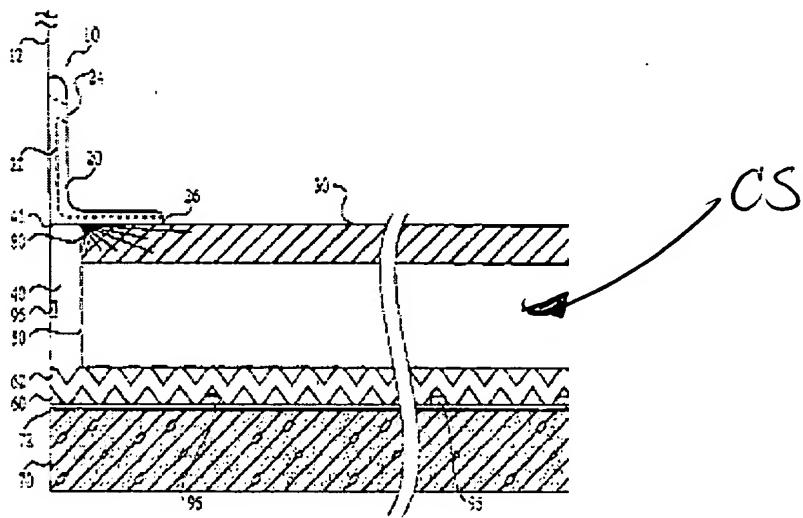
6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1,3 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent #6,279279 to LARIMORE. LARIMORE discloses a water drainage system including continuous embossed plastic drainage panel (60,72) to define a continuous barrier preventing water and water vapor penetration, column 8, lines 16-24 and column 9, lines 18-38, having a plurality of spaced embossments (62) on an underside thereof to allow for drainage. In reference to claim 3, the drainage system is provided in a crawlspace (CS) having a concrete floor (70). Regarding claim 12, a plastic foam (72)



is provided over the embossed drainage panel (60).

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent #6,279,279 to LARIMORE in view of US Patent #4,907,386 to EKROTH. LARIMORE discloses the basic claimed invention except for having the drainage panel extend up vertically adjacent the vertical walls of the foundation. EKROTH teaches that it is known in the art to extend a drainage sheet (20) vertically as shown in figures 7-9. Thus it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to extend the drainage sheet of LARIMORE vertically, as taught by EKROTH, in order to fully protect the foundation walls. If the sheet is only positioned on the foundation floor, if water or vapors enter the space the wall are not protected. However, if the sheet is allowed to be positioned adjacent the wall of the foundation also, then the foundation in its entirety is protected.

Claims 4-6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent #6,279,279 to LARIMORE in view of US Patent #5,931,603 to SWAIN et al. LARIMORE discloses the basic claimed structure except for the foundation being formed of dirt with a peripheral trench. Forming a foundation out of dirt and having a peripheral trench is old and very well known in the art. However, SWAIN et al. teaches that it is known to provide a structure with a dirt foundation (102) with a trench (72) and sump pump (80) positioned therein. Thus it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the system of a

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LARIMORE with a trench and sump pump, as taught by SWAIN et al., in order to ensure that potential exposure to or backflow of water does not occur.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 7-11 and 13-15 remains objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the newly revised ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yvonne M. Horton whose telephone number is (571) 272-6845. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 am - 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Yvonne M. Horton  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3635

05/29/07